

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 FAA-00 SS-20 NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 L-03 /087 R

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O R 242051Z MAY 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:PFOR, ETRN, TD

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF POINTS MADE BY DEPUTY ASSISTANT
SECRETARY WALDMANN IN MAY 16 MEETING WITH TRINIDAD
MINISTER OF COMMERCE MAHABIR

1. AT HIS REQUEST TRINIDAD AMBASSADOR MCINTYRE WAS
PROVIDED FOLLOWING DOCUMENT ON WALDMANN MEETING WITH
MAHABIR. DOCUMENT REPRESENTS WALDMANN STATEMENT IN HIS
FINAL MEETING WITH MAHABIR. MCINTYRE PLANS TO POUCH DOCU-
MENT TO MAHABIR REPORTEDLY TO USE IN BRIEFING PRIME MIN-
ISTER WILLIAMS.

A. PANAM - AMERICAN AIRLINES ROUTE SWAP. CAB AS
INDEPENDENT REGULATORY AGENCY, MUST DEAL WITH THIS MATTER
ON ITS MERITS. FINAL DECISION WILL NOT BE TAKEN BY CAB
FOR SEVERAL MONTHS AND IT IS NOT APPARENT THERE WILL BE
SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON BWIA IF ROUTE SWAP IS APPROVED. US
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WILL, HOWEVER, BE PREPARED TO CONSULT WITH TRINIDAD AND

TOBAGO, IF CAB APPROVES THE PROPOSAL, TO DETERMINE ITS IMPACT. DEPARTMENT WOULD ALSO BE PREPARED TO TRANSMIT TO CAB ANY COMMENTS TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO MAY WISH TO SUBMIT BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE.

B. CAB CHARTER RULE. THIS IS A PROPOSED CAB RULE WHICH, IF ADOPTED, COULD NOT AFFECT BWIA UNTIL END OF YEAR BECAUSE CALCULATIONS FOR UPLIFT RATIO ARE ON A CALENDAR YEAR BASIS. THERE IS TIME, THEREFORE, TO STUDY MATTER FURTHER AND TO BE IN TOUCH WITH TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO AS THIS SITUATION PROGRESSES. WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO FORWARD TO CAB ANY VIEWS SENT BY DIPLOMATIC NOTE.

C. BWIA AS REGIONAL AIRLINE. THE US IS INTERESTED IN STRONG, VIABLE AIRLINES AND HAS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL AIRLINE IN THE CARIBBEAN. WHILE BWIA HAS PLAYED AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGION, IT HAS NOT BEEN FULLY ACCEPTED BY SOME OTHER COUNTRIES WHO APPEAR TO HAVE THEIR OWN AIRLINE ASPIRATIONS. WE CANNOT AVOID RESPONDING TO SUCH COUNTRIES WHEN THEY PRESS US TO CONCLUDE BILATERAL ARRANGEMENTS. BWIA'S FUTURE MAY THEREFORE DEPEND ON FURTHER EFFORTS TO ESTABLISH A COMMON AIRLINE. WE WOULD RESPOND AFFIRMATIVELY AND PROMPTLY TO AN INVITATION FROM THE PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES IN THE REGION, TO PARTICIPATE, AS AN INTERESTED PARTY, IN A REGIONAL DIALOGUE ON THE SUBJECT.

D. PANAM AND EASTERN APPLICATIONS. WE URGE THAT TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO ACT CONSISTENTLY WITH THE EXISTING SERVICES AGREEMENT BY APPROVING THESE PENDING APPLICATIONS. RUSH

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